

# CUMMINGS ECONOMICS

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## Information Release

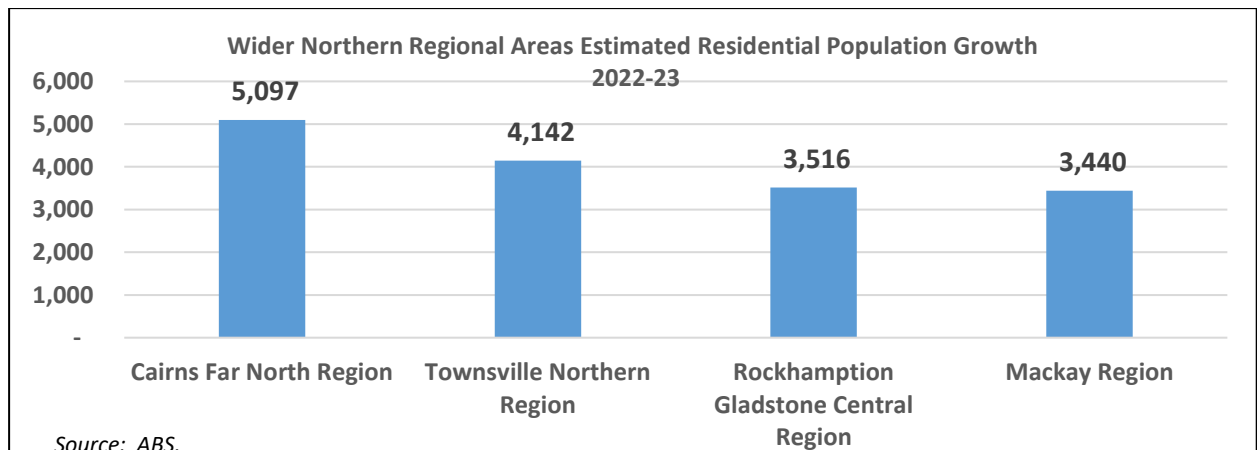
# QLD TROPICAL REGIONS – POPULATION OVER 1 MILLION

Latest Australian Bureau of Statistics Estimated Residential Population Growth figures confirm that residential population in the four (4) major regions of QLD lying the tropics has now passed the one (1) million mark.

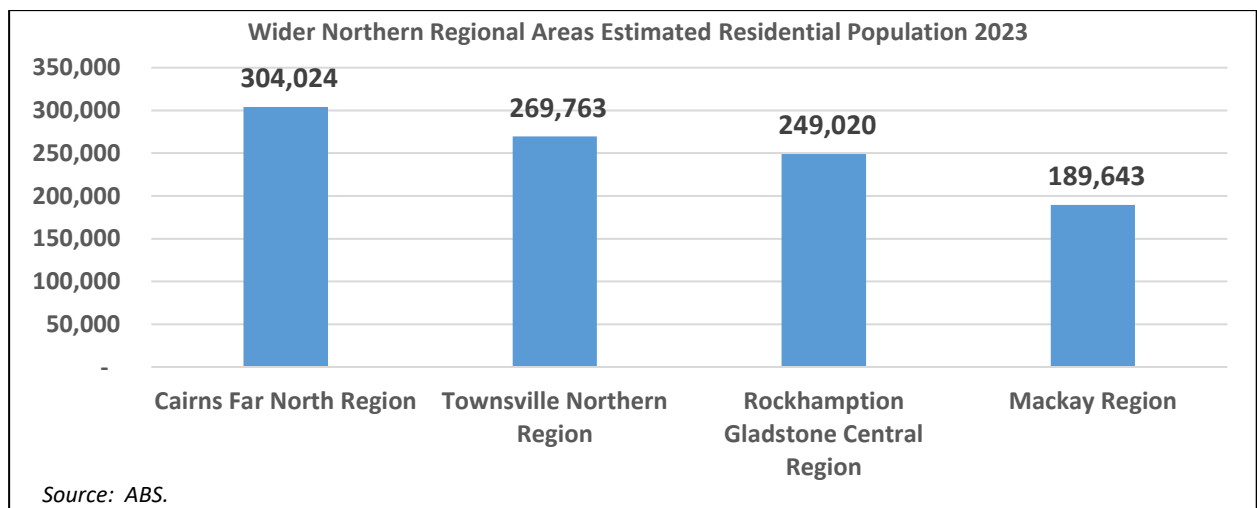
The four (4) regions are based on the cities of Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns. They cover an area equivalent to that covered by the States of NSW, Victoria and Tasmania. Growth recorded in 2022-23 was 16,195, taking a total population to 1,012,450.

The following charts illustrate the wider Cairns Region led in growth and further consolidated its position as the most populous of the four (4) regions with a population passing the 300,000 mark.

**Chart 1. Wider Northern Regional Areas Estimated Residential Population Growth 2022-23**

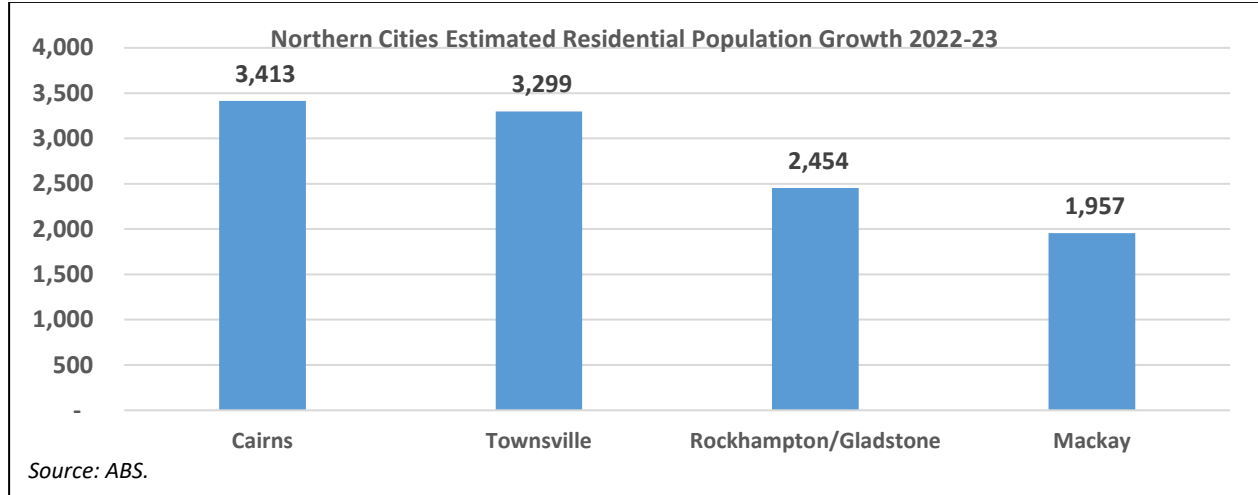


**Chart 2. Wider Northern Regional Areas Estimated Residential Population 2023**

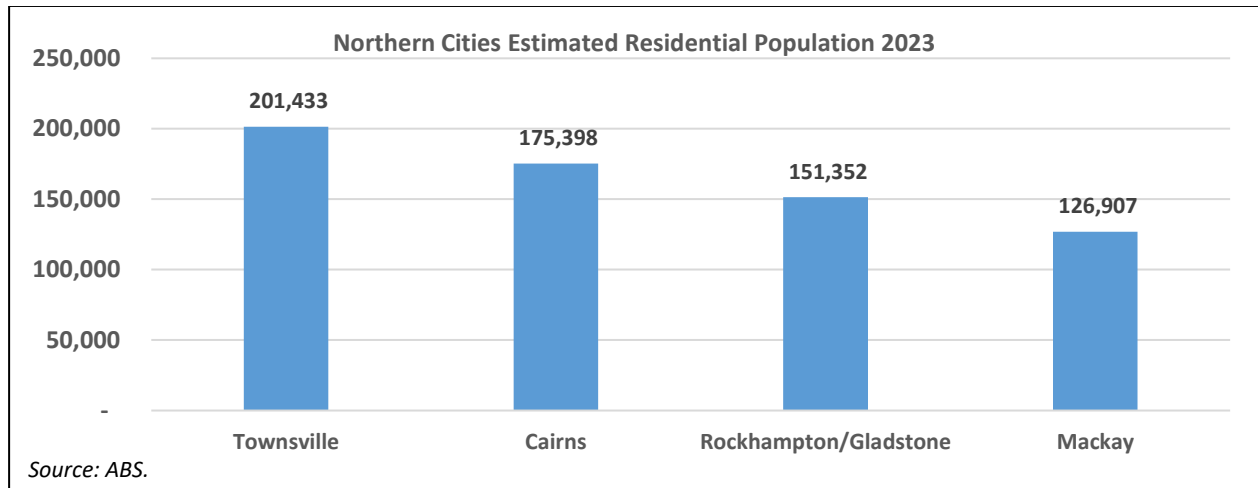


While Cairns City LGA led in population growth in 2022-23 (see **Chart 3**), Townsville City LGA reached a milestone population of 200,000 as against Cairns City 175,000 (see **Chart 4**). On recent growth rates, Cairns should be expected to also follow and pass over the 200,000 mark in about an eight (8) year timeframe. That is about the time of the Brisbane Olympics.

**Chart 3. Northern Cities Estimated Residential Population Growth 2022-23**



**Chart 4. Northern Cities Estimated Residential Population 2023**



*Note: Rockhampton is inland and much of the recent urban growth has been in its port, Gladstone.*

In 2022, the population of the four (4) Tropical QLD Regions grew by 16,195 to reach 1,012,450 compared with the growth of the State of Tasmania of 2,105 to reach 573,156. Each of the four (4) Queensland regions recorded a population growth substantially higher than the State of Tasmania.

Population growth across Northern Australia including the Tropical QLD Regions, Northern Territory and Western Australia Outback North was 19,897 to reach a total population of 1,364,329 in 2023.

*Note: Cities equal Local Government Areas. Wider Regions equal (Cairns Far North Region made up of Cairns SA4, Queensland Outback Far North SA3 and Carpentaria SA2; Townsville Northern Region made up of Townsville SA4, Outback North SA3 minus Carpentaria SA2; Mackay Region equals Mackay SA4; Rockhampton Gladstone Central Region made up of Central Queensland SA4 and the 3 Outback South SA2's of Barcaldine – Blackall, Far Central West & Longreach.*

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